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## Two new species of *Omocerus* (*Paratauroma*) from Brazil\* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

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ABSTRACT. Two new species of *Omocerus* sgen. *Paratauroma*: *O. (P.) doeberli* and *O. (P.) burakowskii*, both from Brazil, are described.

Key words: Entomology, taxonomy, new species, Neotropics, *Coleoptera*, *Chrysomelidae*, *Cassidinae*.

The genus *Omocerus* CHEVROLAT, 1835 (= *Omocera* auct.) comprises 31 species divided into four subgenera (VIANA 1964). Seven of them have been classified within the subgenus *Paratauroma* SPAETH, 1913, but specific status of *O. caeruleopunctatus* (BOHEMAN, 1862) is doubtful. The subgenus is widespread in Neotropics north to Nicaragua and south to Bolivia. The genus *Omocerus* was keyed, under a synonymic name *Tauroma* HOPE, 1839, by SPAETH (1931), only one species was described later (SOARES 1962). In material we have identified recently there are two new species of *Paratauroma*. Their description is given below.

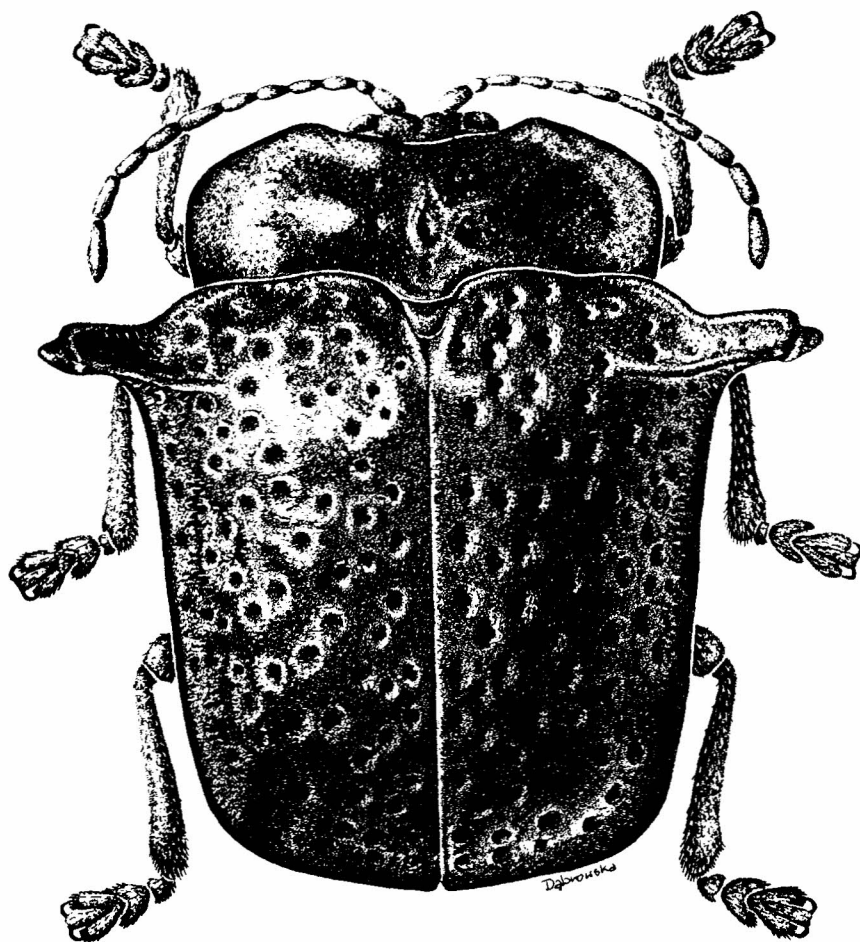
### *Omocerus* (*Paratauroma*) *doeberli* n. sp.

(figs. 1-5)

#### ETYMOLOGY

Dedicated to Manfred DÖBERL, an excellent German entomologist, who sent us specimens of this new species.

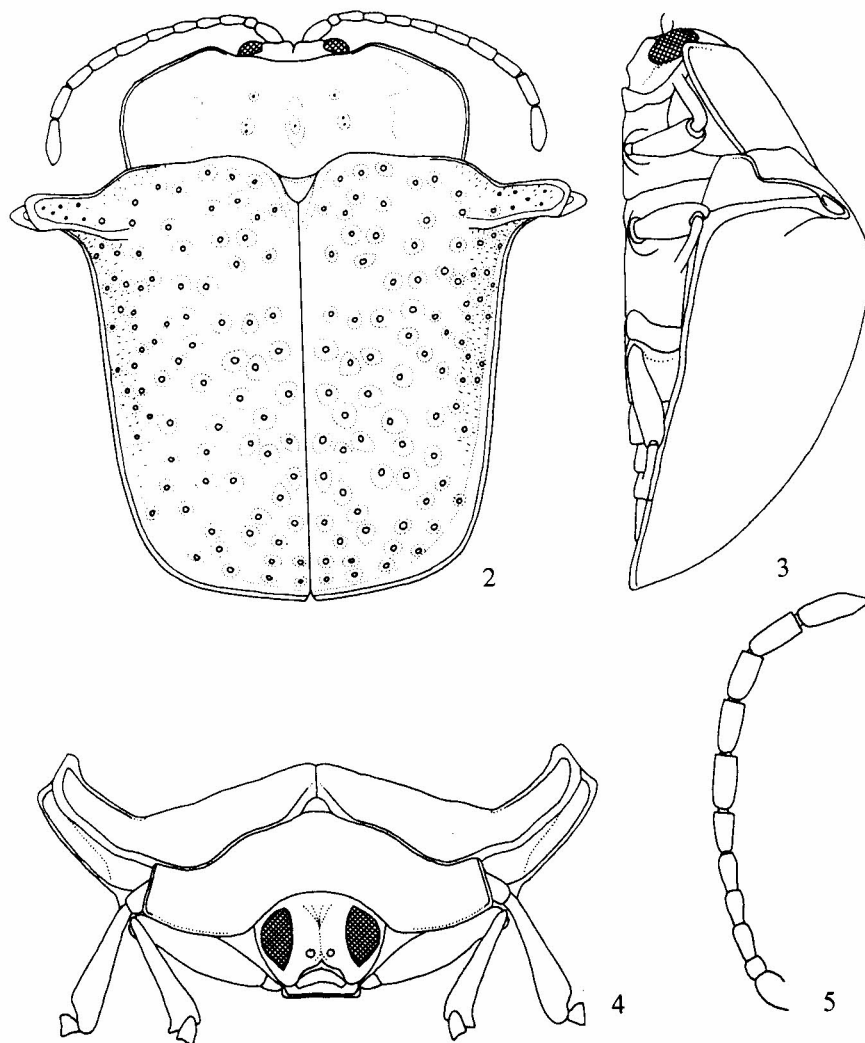
\*Papers Celebrating the 90th Birthday of Dr. Bolesław Burakowski



1. *Omocerus (Paratauroma) doeberli* n. sp. (by A. DĄBROWSKA)

## DIAGNOSIS

Like *O. smaragdinus* BOH. it has elytra regularly convex with no postscutellar impressions, but unlike this species *O. doeberli* has pronotal sides impunctate, dull, and pronotal disc with smooth, mirror-like, extremely finely punctate area (in *O. smaragdina* and in the remaining species of the subgenus pronotal sides are punctate, often rugose, and pronotal disc is never mirror-like, always distinctly



2-5. *Omocerus (Paratauroma) doeberli* n. sp.: 2 - dorsal outline, 3 - lateral outline, 4 - anterior view, 5 - antenna

punctate). The new species described below, *O. burakowskii*, is also similar but differs in pronotum distinctly punctate on both its sides and disc. *O. janthinus* (BOH.), *O. reticulatus* (KIRSCH) and *O. creberrimus* (BOH.) differ also in very strongly punctate elytral sides, with spaces between punctures more than twice smaller than puncture diameter, and elytral punctures without black, dull background (in *O. doeberli* spaces between punctures are as wide as or wider than puncture diameter and punctures have black, dull background). *O. casta* (BOH.), the commonest and widespread species of the subgenus (*O. coeruleopunctatus* is probably only a northern form of this species), like *O. doeberli* has elytral punctures with black, dull background, and elytral sides scarcely punctate but differs in elytra more convex, with distinct postscutellar impressions and pronotum distinctly punctate on whole surface. It has a more northern distribution, from Nicaragua to Venezuela.

#### DESCRIPTION

Length: 13.5-13.9 mm, width: with humeral processes: 13.9-14.2 mm, without humeral processes: 10.2-10.4 mm, width of pronotum: 8.3-8.4 mm, length of pronotum: 4.1-4.3 mm.

Black, of two examined specimens holotype has elytra, including epipleura, and pronotal sides with violet metallic tint, and elytral punctures with black, dull background; paratype has pronotum and elytra uniformly black, only epipleurae with indistinct metallic violet-blue tint, elytral punctures have also black, dull background.

Pronotum very broad, c. twice wider than long, sides evenly rounded, maximum width at the middle, then distinctly converging posterad. Anterior margin deeply emarginate (fig. 2). Disc with distinct median line which is in the middle broadened into oval impression, on both sides two small round impressions, also sides close to border with explanate margin shallowly impressed. Surface of disc smooth, mirror-like, with extremely fine puncturation; space between punctures many times wider than puncture diameter, only on praescutellar lobe punctures denser, space between them 1.5-3.0 times wider than puncture diameter. Surface of explanate margin of disc microgranulate, dull, impunctate, only area close to anterior corners with very shallow, almost invisible, irregular puncturation. Pronotal margin very fine, in basal part of side reduced.

Scutellum triangular, without impression. Elytra strongly but regularly convex (fig. 3), postscutellar area not impressed, suture in anterior half not elevated. Humeral processes short and strongly produced upwards (fig. 4). Posthumeral area with sparse, short, white, erected hair. No longitudinal costae. Puncturation of disc large but sparse. Distance between punctures as wide as or slightly wider than puncture diameter (except parts where punctures group together), on sides punctures distinctly smaller than in sutural half of disc, with distance between punctures up to three times wider than puncture diameter. Surface between punctures microreticulate and mostly dull, only postscutellar elevation slightly glabrous. Explanate margin very narrow with row of small and sparse punctures. Apex of elytral epipleura with short, erected hair.

Head with no diagnostic characters. Prosternal process shallowly impressed, its surface slightly irregular, densely punctate. Antennae typical for the subgenus *Paratauroma*; five basal segments smooth and glabrous, six distal segments dull, segment 6 not shorter than 5 (fig. 5), slightly glabrous. Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:34:78:75:78:81:119:100:100:106:156. Underside and legs with no diagnostic characters.

#### TYPES

Holotype and paratype: "Brasilien, Amazonas, 10.94" (holotype in the collection of junior author, Wrocław, Poland, paratype in the collection of M. DÖBERL, Seeweg, Germany).

### *Omocerus (Paratauroma) burakowskii* n. sp.

(figs 6-10)

#### ETYMOLOGY

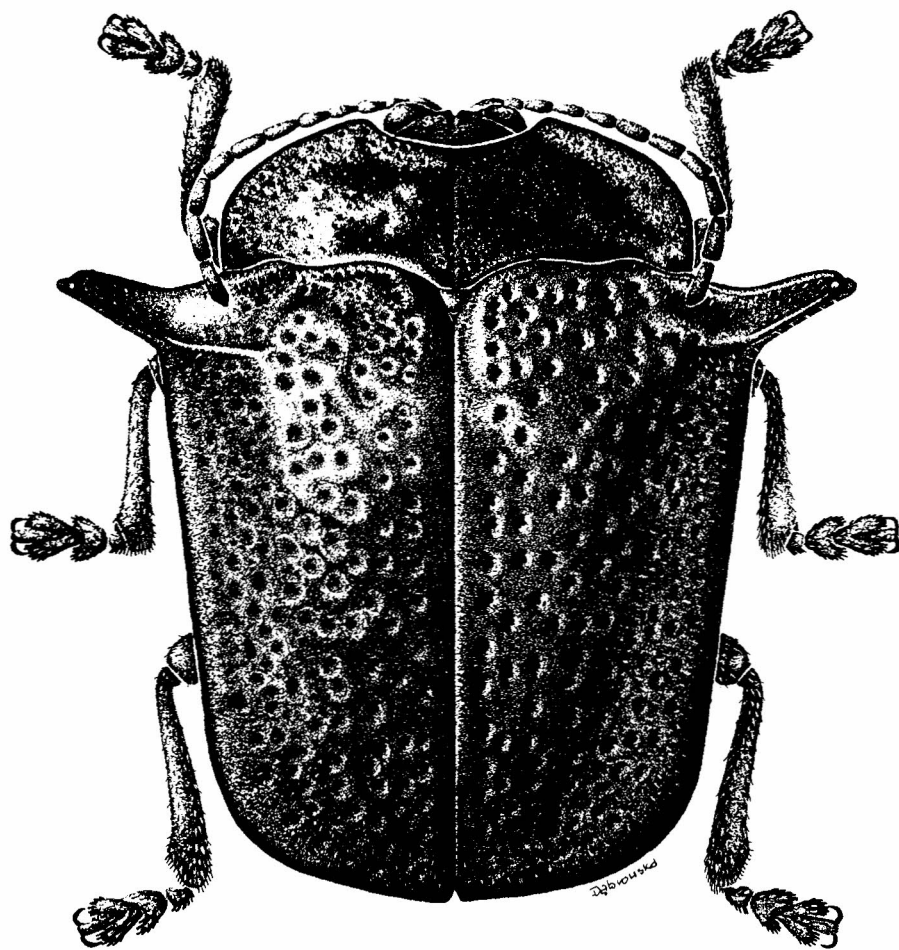
Named after Dr. Boleslaw BURAKOWSKI, an excellent Polish entomologist, to whom this volume is dedicated.

#### DIAGNOSIS

Like *O. smaragdinus* BOH. it has elytra regularly convex with no postscutellar impressions, but unlike this species *O. burakowskii* has pronotal sides and disc finely punctate (in *O. smaragdina* and in remaining species of the subgenus pronotal sides are usually strongly punctate, often rugose). The new species described above, *O. doeberli*, is also similar but differs in pronotal disc almost impunctate and explanate margin of elytra with row of punctures. *O. janthinus* (BOH.), *O. reticulatus* (KIRSCH) and *O. creberrimus* (BOH.) differ also in very strongly punctate elytral sides, with spaces between punctures more than twice smaller than puncture diameter, and elytral punctures without black, dull background (in *O. burakowskii* spaces between punctures are as wide as or slightly narrower than puncture diameter and punctures have black, dull background). *O. casta* (BOH.) like *O. burakowskii* has elytral punctures with black, dull background, and elytral sides sparsely punctate, but differs in elytra more convex, with distinct postscutellar impressions and pronotum distinctly punctate on whole surface. It has a more northern distribution, from Nicaragua to Venezuela. *O. burakowskii* distinctly differs from all species of the subgenus *Paratauroma* in broad, impunctate explanate margin of elytra.

#### DESCRIPTION

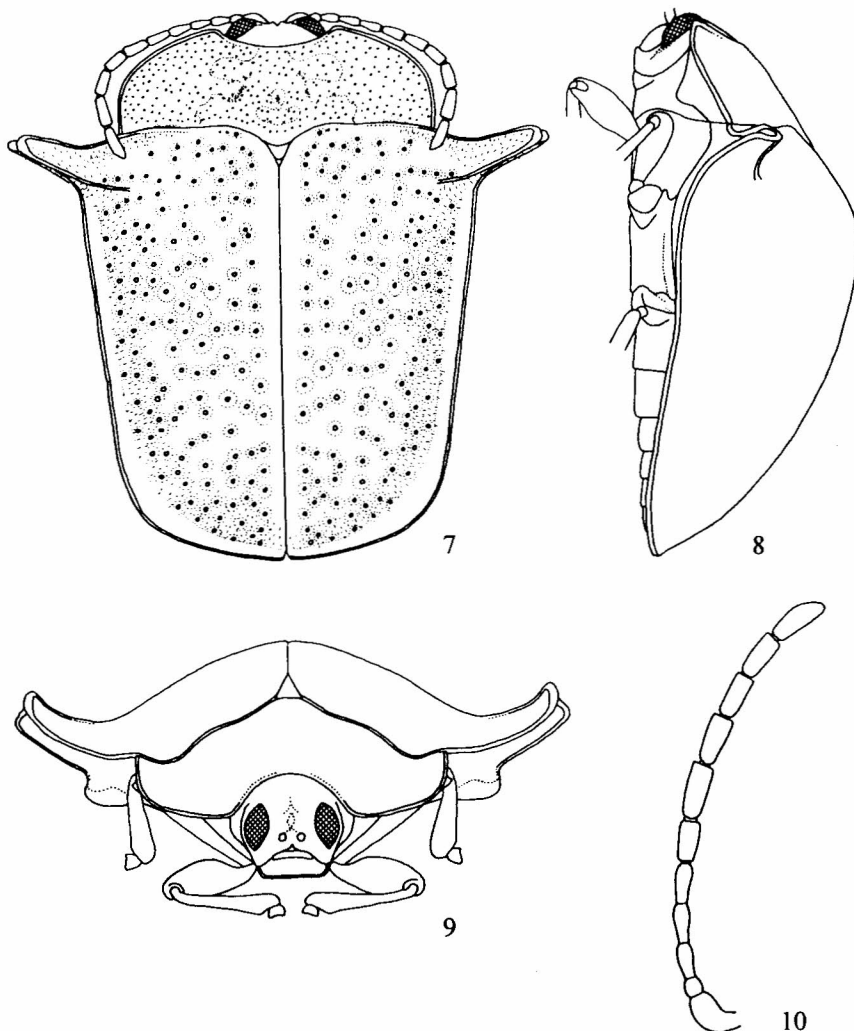
Length: 15.4 mm, width: with humeral processes: 15.7 mm, without humeral processes: 11.7 mm, width of pronotum: 9.0 mm, length of pronotum: 4.5 mm.



6. *Omocerus (Paratauroma) burakowskii* n. sp. (by A. DĄBROWSKA)

Black, elytra, including epipleura, and pronotum with green-blue metallic tint, green occupies dorsal part of elytra, blue sides; elytral punctures in the centre with black, dull background; ventral surface with black-green metallic tint.

Pronotum very broad, c. twice wider than long, sides evenly rounded, maximum width in the middle, then slightly converging posterad (fig. 7). Anterior margin deeply emarginate. Disc with distinct median line which is in the middle broadened



7-10. *Omocerus (Paratauroma) burakowskii* n. sp.: 7 - dorsal outline, 8 - lateral outline, 9 - anterior view, 10 - antenna

into oval impression, on both sides two shallow, round impressions, also sides close to border with explanate margin very shallowly impressed. Surface of disc microreticulate, only in the centre slightly glabrous, with fine puncturation, on sides of disc punctures c. twice larger than in the centre of disc; space between punctures 1.5-3.0 times wider than puncture diameter; praescutellar lobe shallowly impressed, impunctate. Surface of explanate margin of disc microreticulate, dull, sparsely punctate, punctures as large as those of sides of disc, distance between punctures 2-3 times wider than puncture diameter. Pronotal margin very fine, in basal half of side reduced.

Scutellum triangular, without impression. Elytra strongly but regularly convex (fig. 8), postscutellar area not impressed, suture in anterior half not elevated. Humeral processes short and strongly produced upwards (fig. 9). Posthumeral area up to slope of disc with sparse, short, white, erected hair. No longitudinal costae. Puncturation of disc large but sparse. Distance between punctures 0.5-1.5 times wider than puncture diameter (except parts where punctures group together), on sides punctures twice smaller than in sutural half of disc, with distance between punctures up to twice wider than puncture diameter. Surface between punctures microreticulate and mostly dull, only impunctate postscutellar elevation slightly glabrous. Explanate margin narrow but distinctly wider than in other species of the subgenus, especially in posterior angle, without punctures. Apex of elytral epipleura with short, erected hair.

Head with no diagnostic characters. Prosternal process shallowly impressed, its surface slightly irregular, densely punctate. Antennae typical for the subgenus *Paratauroma*; five basal segments smooth and glabrous, six distal segments dull, segment 6 not shorter than 5 (fig. 10), as dull as distal segments. Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:35:72:74:72:82:108:94:100:100:144. Underside and legs with no diagnostic characters.

#### TYPES

Holotype: "Brazilia" (in the collection of junior author, Wrocław, Poland).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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